

Philadelphia Nov^r 28th 1777

My Dearest Friend

I tell I am persuaded give
you pleasure to hear that I arrived safe & in
good health at this place 3 Days ago. after
having spent three weeks on board a ship in
the Delaware off Chester not being able to
proceed any higher on account of Mud Island
& Red Bank which were both very strongly
fortified & both in possession of the Rebels
by which means all communication between
the town of Philadelphia & the shipping
was totally cut off. We have at last ^{been} ^{convinced}
that out of Mud Island, & upon our landing
with the Reinforcements from York amounting to

About 4900 men & being joined at a place called
Billings fort in the Jerseys by Lord Cornwallis with
2000, they have thought proper to abandon
Red Bank, for which I think we are much
obliged to them, as it would have been a
pretty tough moral to have stormed, they
have burnt all their Shipping except a few
galleys, that have run up the River above
the town, & we have now a communication
with our Ships which has prevented the army
at Philadelphia from starving. We are now
surrounded but I hope in a few Days we shall
clear the country about us, & as yet to be inserted
in our Winter quarters.

I can't help lamenting with you the unfortunate
situation to which our friend Mr Berzozue has
been reduced, so doubt you have before this heard

of his having been obliged to surrender with his
whole army. the capitulation he has made
does him honour, & I have the pleasure to
inform you that the general opinion of the
army is that his conduct ~~can~~ can not be blamed.
Whose will, cela reste a savoir. I shall
not give you my opinion, or say anything further
about the matter, as it is a subject that for
more reasons than one I don't think it prudent
to give ~~my~~ ^{upon} opinion, in ~~writing~~ a letter.

I dined yesterday with Harcourt who
desires particularly to be remembered to
your excellency.

Adieu mon cher amis believe me ever
with the greatest truth of affection
I suppose going home this winter
if I can get leave. unalterably yours
Thos Stanley

